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VOLUME 36 NUMBER 3 MARCH 1988

WELCOME MAT OUT FOR GIN JA1ACB

RECEIVED
MAR 21 1988

L. to R. Camille, KA5CQJ- Gin, JA1ACB- Jack, W5HEZ - Vance, WB5HBR - Pix by K5KR

L. to R. Dean, WA6PJR - Ed, K6EV - Irv, W6GC - Gin, JA1ACB - Ken, W6WIS - Cole, W6OXP - Pix by Dale, W6IWO

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RTTY JOURNAL
Dale S. Sinner, W6IWO
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ABOUT THE COVER

Gin, JA1ACB was in the U.S. on a business trip in late February and that gave RTTY Hams a chance for an eyeball QSO with him. The gang in the top picture made arrangements in New Orleans and the gang in the lower picture made arrangements in Los Angeles. It was a rare occassion which everyone enjoyed.

Dale Sinner, W6IWO
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HITS & MISSES

Being the publisher of the RTTY Journal has given me exposure to many exciting events. My most recent one took place on the evening of February 23, 1988. The day before I received a landline from a good Ham friend and avid DXer Irv Emig, W6GC. Irv asked me if I would like to attend a dinner party where the guest would none other than the famous Gin, JA1ACB. Needless to say, it did not take me long to make up my mind. Another event took place about the same time. "Doc" Watson, W7MI was in town visting his daughter and we had planned to get together. I called Doc and invited him along because he is also an avid DXer. Between Irv and Dean, WA6PJR (co-sponsor of the dinner) we ended up with nine Hams at the dinner with Gin. Most everyone there has had a contact with Gin at one time or another except me and I think we were all in awe being able to get together with such a famous Dxer. Gin gave me a copy of his DXCC list and it is up to 272 and waiting for about six. What a great acomplishment.

Those in attendance at the meeting were: Irv, W6GC - Al, W6MI - Doc, W7MI - Cole, W6OXP - Ken, W6WIS - Ed, K6EV - Dean, WA6PJR - Gin, JA1ACB - and myself. Al and Doc have the same call except for different districts and had talked before via radio but never in person and that was exciting for them. Altogether, we represented 395 years of Amateur Radio and 168 of that in RTTY. Look for the pictures of this fine evening on page 18 of this issue. Thanks to Irv and Dean for the invitation and for the opportunity to meet and visit with Gin. Gin was presented a special pin by Ken, W6WIS and also took home some copies of the Journal. It was a great evening and we all took home some very special memories of a very special RTTY friend.

If you going to the Dayton Hamvention and intend to be there on Friday night and are also a QCWA member, you might wish to attend their dinner (being a QCWA member not necessary). It will be held at Neil's Hertitage House, no-host cocktail at 6:30 and the banquet starts at 7:30. They have a nice program planned with Carole Perry, WB2MGP as speaker. If you would like more details, contact Bob Dingle, KA4LAU, 657 Dell Ridge Drive, Dayton, Oh. 45429, phone (513) 299-7114. Banquet tickets are $13.00 each.

Paul Blankmann, AH6D wrote to tell us that his article in the January 1988 issue of the Journal on AMTOR versus Packet transmissions has been translated into Spanish and published in the Radio Club of Argentina (RCA) newsletter. (See the Larry Warren article this month)

(cont. pg. 15)

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92640

CONNECTIONS

THIS MONTH'S NEW PRODUCTS

Anyone who has used an amplifier on the HF bands in the RTTY mode knows that the stress on the amplifier is nearly worst case due to long periods of continuous key-down operation. Even in the case of Amplitude Modulation (AM), because the maximum output is limited to 1500 watts peak output, the stress is less severe than 1500 watts peak output on RTTY mode. This is because the average power in voice modulation AM is less than the peak power whereas the average power and peak power in RTTY (FSK) is the same. So, for digital modes, battleship construction is the name of the game. Having built several 4-1000A KW amplifiers and a 3-1000Z KW amplifier that is currently in use on the HF bands, I can assure you that heavier is better and that "too heavy" is purely a matter of opinion and expenditure. Of course every high-power amplifier builder would like to use vacuum- variable capacitors in the output side of the circuit but they cost an arm and a leg, even in surplus sales. It is becoming more and more difficult to find air-insulated variables both in surplus and on the retail market. Comes now KILO-TEC to the rescue with a new line of high quality, high voltage variable capacitors with heavy duty construction of brass, high grade aluminum with gold anodizing and high voltage acrylic insulation for the end plates. KILO-TEC claims they will withstand RF voltage to 7.8 KV and are suitable for high power antenna matching units, power amplifiers and transmitters. They currently offer two values, 500 pf and 250 pf models. Figure 1 (pg. 13) is a photo of a split-stator variable capacitor that appears to be about 250 pf per section. The price class for the TC-250 is $29 and for the TC-500 approximately $40. However I am not sure if this is for split-stator capacitors or for single-section capacitors. KILO-TEC calls this line the Nevada High-Power variable capacitor. Perhaps the capacitors are made in Nevada and distributed by KILO-TEC. To find out for sure you can call (805) 646-9645 or write - P.O. Box 1001, Oak View, CA 93022. They expect to add other RF components, roller inductors, and kits in the near future.

The second hardware item on our list is the PAC-COM PC-100 series of data communication adaptors that are plug and software compatible with any IBM PC/XT/AT or compatible computer. This series currently consists of two models, the single port PC-110 (price class $170) and the dual port PC-120 (price class $200). Each card comes with a software diskette which provides both conventional packet controller functions and packet terminal software functions such as message buffer management, file transfers, etc. The diskette for the dual port PC-120 provides software for management of both ports. The software makes use of windows to provide for menus, split screen displays, etc. PAC-COM says they will provide updates to purchasers for a period of one year that add additional features to the standard software. Kits, bare boards and special modem configurations are also available and interested parties are invited to call for further information on these items. The PC-100 series cards are "short slot" five-inch cards and thus are usable in the PC-AT short-slot. What more could one want? Well, perhaps a multi-mode controller ona card with features similar to the KAM or PK232? How about that, PAC-COM?

Another new hardware/software combo of interest to the digital communications community is a new product from COMPUMAX, called TRUFAX. TRUFAX will tempt the IBM-PC or true compatible user. It digitizes analog (audio) facsimile data, has both receive *and* transmit capability, both AM (WEFAX) and FM input, zoom, pan and file management software is included, and the display drivers provide CGA, EGA, and Hercules monitor display mode support. The incoming audio data is digitized into 3 bits of resolution per pixel (dot on the screen) which provides 6 levels of gray or color. The image, now captured in the video display memory of the PC, may be examined by zooming and panning across the image and/or printed on an IBM or Epson compatible graphics printer.

The TRUFAX board can transmit data at a maximum rate of 4 khz and is compatible with a variety of transmit formats, supporting transmit line rates of 60, 120, 180, and 240 lines per minute. TRUFAX operates in full or half resolution mode. The TRUFAX board is claimed to conform to FCC class B RFI-EMI requirements, an important item for radio operators. This board and software is a mid or high end item for most operators, being in the $600 and up price class. The lower price being for Hercules *or* CGA display support, and about $850 for EGA (Enhanced Graphics Adaptor) support. COMPUMAX is at 26 West Boylston St., West Boylston, MA 01583 (617) 835-2722.

(cont. pg. 4)

(CONNECTIONS cont. from pg. 3)

Fourth new hardware item is from MFJ, who have announced the MFJ-1278, which is MFJ's version of the multi-mode controller. In fact, they advertise that the MFJ-1278 will copy SSTV and act as a contest keyer as well as the normal multi-mode functions such as CW, Baudot RTTY, ASCII RTTY, Packet, and weather FAX for a total of seven digital modes. The price class for the unit is $250. Support software is available for the C64/C128 and also the IBM PC series at a price class of $20 each. RTTY shifts include 170, 425, and 850 hz which makes copying Press and Mars traffic much easier. MFJ claims the new unit has an Autobaud feature, which will automatically set the MFJ RS232 serial port data rate to match your computer. Those of you who have struggled to match serial data rates in the past will appreciate this feature. For further information call 800-647-1800 for your nearest dealer.

And now, we introduce some new software. Apple Macintosh owners of a digital bent will be happy to learn of SUMMIT CONCEPTS' new MACTTY software for use with many different TU's (Terminal Units), TNC's, and multi-mode controllers. For example, it is claimed to work with the PK-232, the KAM, MFJ-1229,MFJ-1274, MFJ-1270, and MFJ-1278 among many others. All common Baud rates (I know, its redundant!) up to 9600. MACTTY allows operation on Baudot or ASCII with only a simple terminal unit (for you folks with an ST-5, ST-6, TTL-2 or whatever) or combined with a TNC or multi-mode controller allows operation in the other digital modes. It provides three different Baudot teleprinter codes (American, Western Union, and CCIT No. 2). The program allows split screen operation with variable size windows. All operations are in menu form with full Mouse compatibility and with the capability of customizing the menus. Many other features are provided. The price class of this program is $40 and will run on any MacIntosh with 512K of ram or later model. Further information is available from SUMMIT CONCEPTS by sending an SASE to Suite 102-190, 1840 41st Ave., Capitola, CA 95010.

Please note that the above new product announcements are just that; and not a "live" review of the product. Anyone who is using or intends to use products announced in this column is invited to write a review of the product to let the rest of the digital community know if it met your expectations, and if not, why not. We look for a "Tell it like it is" type of review. Send the review to Dale, our illustrious Publisher/Editor and become immortalized in print.

Considerable space is used up this month by the new product announcements. However, judging from comments received from a number of overseas digital aficionados, the RTTY Journal is a major source of new product information. If you think too much space is being devoted to this, please let me or Dale know.

Electronic manufacturing firms and entrepreneurs are invited to send in their new product announcements and are reminded that you do not have to be an advertiser to have your new product announcements published herein. (But where else would you find such a well-qualified potential customer base?)

OUR EPIC CONTINUES

When I left you last month, I did not have an answer to my letter to ICOM-Osaka and I am sorry to say I still do not have it. However, I have been able to check out and confirm proper operation of the computer CT17-UX14-IC751 combination and have been able to set the IC751 transceiver to different frequencies, modes, and switch between VFO and the different memory channels and back again. The problem is I have to use one of the four sub-programs to do this and must manually load each of the four to accomplish the different functions. I was relieved to find that translating the four sub-programs to GW-Basic was relatively easy. The main, menu-driven program is the one I am having the trouble with, trying to find the proper Microsoft GW-Basic statements and functions to substitute for certain NEC N88-Basic statements/functions as given in last month's column.

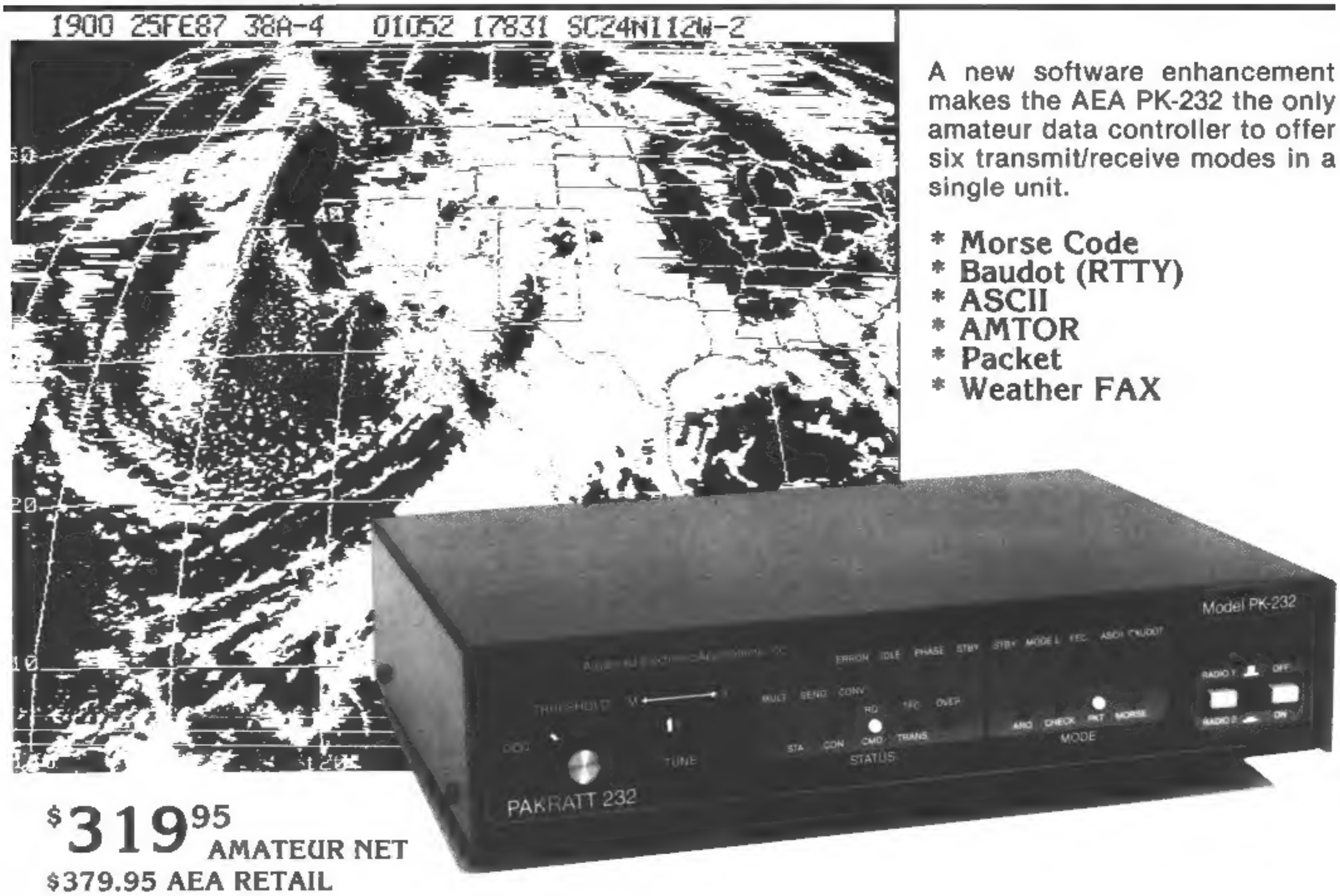
Getting this menu-driven main program going will save me from having to individually load and run the four separate sub-programs. I may soon have a fix for this as I had the good fortune to meet Gin, JA1ACB, last week during his stopover in Los Angeles. He is going to see what he can do to find a description of the statements in question. Nevertheless, I was very pleased to be able to check out the complete hardware setup and now only have to worry about the main program conversion.

WE DO NOT HAVE MAIL THIS MONTH

Except for some product announcements, no mail was received this month. So now is a good time for you folks who wanted to chew me out for some snide remark to write and let me have both barrels. Do it now before your blood cools and you can no longer think of those choice words! Very 73 **de Cole W6OXP**

New PK-232 Breakthrough

Six Digital Modes - Including Weather FAX



A new software enhancement makes the AEA PK-232 the only amateur data controller to offer six transmit/receive modes in a single unit.

- **Morse Code**
- **Baudot (RTTY)**
- **ASCII**
- **AMTOR**
- **Packet**
- **Weather FAX**

$319.95 AMATEUR NET
$379.95 AEA RETAIL

Your home computer (or even a simple terminal) can be used for radio data communication in six different modes. Any RS-232 compatible computer or terminal can be connected directly to the PK-232, which interfaces with your transceiver. The only program needed is a simple terminal program, like those used with telephone modems, allowing the computer to be used as a data terminal. All signal processing, protocol, and decoding software is in ROM in the PK-232.

The PK-232 also includes a no compromise VHF/HF/CW modem with an eight pole bandpass filter, four pole discriminator, and 5 pole post detection low pass filter. Experienced HF Packeteers are reporting the PK-232 to have the best Packet modem available.

Operation of the PK-232 is a breeze, with twenty-one front panel indicators for constant status and mode indication. The 240 page manual includes a "quick start" section for easy connection and complete documentation including schematics. Two identical back panel radio ports mean either your VHF or HF radio can be selected with a front panel switch. Other back panel connections include external modem disconnect, FSK and Scope Outputs, CW keying jacks, and RS-232 terminal interface.

The RS-232 connector is also used for attaching any Epson graphics compatible parallel printer for printing Weather Fax. Weather maps and satellite photos, like the one in this ad, can be printed in your shack.

Contact your local AEA dealer today for more information about the one unit that gives you six modes for one low price, the PK-232.

AEA Brings you the Breakthrough

2006-196th St. SW
Lynnwood, WA 98036
(206) 775-7373

Roy Gould, KT1N
P.O. BOX DX
Stow, Ma. 01775

DX NEWS

Well I hope all of you have got the antennas ready, the rigs tuned up, the coffee put on, pencils ready, computers ready, and primed to work a few new ones in this years BARTG Spring RTTY Contest. I usually work at least one new one in this contest. Any contest is a great way to add to your totals.

DXCC Changes

The recent changes in the DXCC certainly got us RTTY folks attention. Jack W5HEZ called me right after the news broke and let me know how he felt along with some of the others down his way. I will share Jack's letter with you and also urge you to express your views with your ARRL Director and your representative on the DX Advisory committee.

Basically what has been adopted with the DXCC is as follows:

Endorsement stickers for the 160, 80, 40, 6, 2 meter bands and the Satellite DXCC are awarded in multiples of 10 up to the 200 level and awarded in multiples of 5 above 200.

Endorsement stickers for the Mixed, Phone, CW, 10 Meter and RTTY DXCC are awarded in multiples of 25 up to the 250 level and then in multiples of 10 between 250 and 300 and in multiples of 5 above 300. Also there is NO RTTY DXCC HONOR ROLL.

Well if the powers in Newington think that RTTY DXCC is easier to obtain then 160, 80 or 40 Mixed DXCC they should try to get on RTTY and work 200 or so countries never mind the basic 100!

Jack W5HEZ, in his letter to his DX advisory committee member K5UR points out the following:

o In the chart below it shows the number of 160 and RTTY DXCC's listed in the Annual December DXCC QST listings for the last 3 years.

YEAR	1985	1986	1987
160 Mhz	65	130	217
RTTY	31	62	89

o Both the 160 and RTTY DXCC's became endorsable in 1984

o Since the beginning of issuance of both, 260 160Mhz DXCC's have been issued and 175 RTTY DXCC's.

o Looking at the 1987 160Mhz figures, 217 DXCC's, it shows that 83 percent are "endorsed or endorsable", whereas 89 RTTY DXCC's or 50 percent, are "endorsed or endorsable". It appears it is easier to endorse a 160 DXCC then a RTTY DXCC.

o With that in mind it appears that the RTTY DXers are being short changed by the recent Board of Directors actions.

RTTY DXCC HONOR ROLL

The next thing Jack goes on to say, is about the lack of a RTTY DXCC Honor Roll. To date there have been 175 RTTY DXCC's issued, two and a half years after endorsement was allowed. The December 1987 listing showed 10 RTTY DX stations in the top ten ranging from 231 countries to 187 countries confirmed or a spread of 44 countries.

In the annual DXCC listing in the December 1976 QST there were 135 CW DXCC's listed. In the September 1977 Honor Roll listing there were 11 stations listed in the CW Honor Roll. The top station had 268 countries while the lowest had 219 confirmed. This is a spread of 49 countries.

In comparing these figures, why hasn't RTTY been extended the same Honor that was extended to CW 2 years after it was started?

With the increased activity on the Digital Modes and the emphasis that the League is placing on Digital Communications, it is felt that creation of a RTTY Honor Roll and endorsements in multiples of 10 and 5 confirmations will create a lot of interest and competition for the top 10 spots on RTTY DXCC activity.

Well the above is taken from a letter Jack wrote his DXAC member and these views as presented are shared by your humble DX editor. If you feel the way Jack and I do, we ask you to take a little time and send a letter off to your DXAC member and your Director. The addresses of all the DXAC members is found on page 51 of the June 1987 QST. The chairman of the DXAC is John W4FRU. I have called my local guy who is Bill K1MM. In our conversation I quoted some of Jack's figures, (as you can see he has done his homework) Bill was in agreement and I now have sent him a letter.

(cont. pg. 7)

(DX NEWS cont. from pg. 6)

So with enough of us beating the drums maybe we can win for RTTY.

DX NEWS

KH1, T30. Well the big news is from Jim Smith VK9NS. Jim , Jackie F2CW, 7J1ADX will take RTTY gear to Baker Howland Island (KH1). They have a vessel chartered from March 21 thru April 18. Jim will first operate from Tarawa T30, where he will meet the ship. He expects to leave T30 on March 22 for KH1. The trip to KH1 should take 4 days. Usual RTTY frequencies with the emphasis on 20 meters. The cost is estimated to be $2,500 per operator, so any help with donations to Jim would be appreciated.

SAO TOME S9, in addition Jim, VK9NS is planning to be here in May or June!!

PITCAIRN ISLAND VR6TC...RTTY gear has been shipped to Tom by the West Coast RTTY DX Association. Who are they you ask?? Well it seems a gang of them on the West Coast got together and formed this group. I think they are blaming Dean WA6PJR as the ring leader, but Irv W6GC and Don W6PQS are in there helping also. More info can be had by writing them at Irv W6GC, 737 12th Street, Manhattan Beach, CA 90266.

CHRISTMAS ISLAND T32BG...another effort by the above group with W6PQS was on during February. Not Heard here at all though. QSL via W6PQS.

KURE KH7... KH6JEB was trying to get his RTTY gear working before he left late last month for the trip back to Kure. Anyone heard him??

ZL9 by ZL1AMO and ZL1BQD... they were on but not worked here, but W1DA reports working them. Hmmmm, he doesn't miss much. I guess they were on 15 one day real strong but I was not around. QSL Via ZL1BQD.

NAVASSA by K2SG/NP1... wrapped up; they were very active. QSL via N4GNR.

GALAPAGOS HD8G... by the Association DX-EX was very busy with over 500 QSOs on the Digital modes February 10 -17. QSL to me KT1N.

FAROE ISLANDS OY9A... has been active around 1500 -1600 UTC on 14.084.

GABON TR8JLR has been active on 14.098 around 2300 UTC

NO. SUDAN 6T2MG... Malik has been worked recently on 14.088 at 2100 UTC. He must have gotten over his fear of pileups as he was handling them very well on the 18 of FEB.

MACAU XX9DN... has been worked recently on 14.092

NIUE ISLAND ZK2JB...is active once again after returning from his around the world trip!! Bet he has some interesting stories.

Barbados 8P6RY has been active on 15 meters 21.088 around 1700-1800 UTC.

FRENCH GUIANA FY5AU...Les has been active around 21.090 at 1730 - 1800 UTC. Easy to work, but the QSL card is another story!!

PAKAISTAN AP2SQ...has been active on 14.078 around 1200 UTC, QSL via W3HNK or direct to: Sharukh Qaiair, Box 4787, Karachi 0223, Pakaistan.

TONGA A35SA... has been active both on Baudot and now Amtor, QSL via KB7QC.

UNITED ARAB EMIRATES A61AB....Jackey Calvot will be on from here in March with a beam. He reportedly has documentation and will now count. Many of us worked A61XL this past year who was an excellent QSLer. To bad they didn't count.

MONACO DJ6QT/3A2... Walter will be on from here for the BARTG; QSL his CBA.

St. PIERRE & MIQUELON ISLANDS.... FP5HL and FP5DF have both been active on 15 and 20 meters. QSL to: PO BOX 1107, Lelevere, F-97500, St. Pierre.

Other rumors and proposed trips:
GAMBIA C53 by 6W6JX sometime in March.

KINGMAN REEF KH5K in April 13-20, K9AJ/KH5 QSL via WA2MOE

PALMYRA KH5 April 23-30 W0RLX/KH5 QSL via WA2MOE

EAST KIRIBATI T32..W0RLX and K9AJ May 3-10 QSL via WA2MOE

MARIANAS ISLANDS KH0... by KH6JEB sometime in May

(cont. pg. 9)

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CONTESTING

AMTOR

I've gotten a couple of notes from one of our Canadian readers taking me to task for the nasty remarks I made about AMTOR staying below 14080 on twenty meters.

AMTOR is excellent for rag-chewing. Once linked, it is almost as good as drinking too much tequila, that is to say, it's like being bullet-proof. It is impervious to all but the most persistent interference. Nearby RTTY, CW and even other AMTOR signals hardly cause a missed chirp. The amateur's tradition for embracing new technology, the same one which caused the SSB transmitter to replace the television set, may someday cause AMTOR to replace BAUDOT on the ham bands. But for now, it is not the conventional mode for contesting and seems to be imperfectly suited to the kiss-and-run-maneuver normally associated with the DX pileup (albeit there are DX stations who work exclusively AMTOR for just that reason).

The need to keep AMTOR out of the area between 14080 and 14100 KHZ is rooted in technology, not in any particular fondness for tradition. AFSK, the method in widest use for RTTY/AMTOR transmission, is too often accompanied by overdriven, mismatched audio circuits. In the menagerie above 14.2 the same lousy audio on SSB wouldn't rate a raised eyebrow but then, up there, no one would be so optimistic as to establish a 20 KHZ segment and then into try to cram 5 MSO's, 6 US guys rag chewing, a pileup trying to work **A15AC**, 3 or 4 other DX QSOs and the rep from the Belgrade Lakes chamber of commerce with his spellbinding up-to-the-minute bulletins on last year's earthquake. During an RTTY contest that same 20 KHZ may support all of the above plus as many as 30 folks attempting to wear off the effects of too much coffee by calling CQ CONTEST.

Spurs from poorly adjusted or malfunctioning equipment are so common that **K6WZ** jokingly suggested that the "one signal on the band" rule included in the proposed ARRL RTTY ROUNDUP contest would disqualify half the contestants. Just forgetting to turn off your speech processor can turn your signal into the RF equivalent of Tammy Baker. If you add a slightly higher baudrate and an ARQ keying transient a couple of times each second you get the signal that ate New York City. Guess how much weak DX you are going to work in the five KHZ between two AMTOR QSOs running ARQ. Give up?? Yeah, me too.

WHATS FAIR IN DX CONTESTS

Winning a DX contest from North America, not to mention from the USA is pretty tough. The rules of most contests are designed to encourage activity from outside of North America. This allows those of us who stay at home a clean shot at some new countries but we also have to be content to compete for country or zone awards and forget about the "BIG WIN". This is not to say that North Americans are being picked on. Consider trying to win from Japan, Australia or some other more deluxe contest spot, like Kansas.

The EXCHANGE POINTS TABLE, based on CQ zones, awards QSO points by the distance between locations. Working with this system is a real treat for those of us who operate as non-DX or from a place that lacks reliable, all-band propagation into areas of high multiplier density. It also plays down the advantage given QTHs just outside North America who in many contests only need to mass-process W/K QSOs to get a winning score.

Without a computer to do the logging, the faster rates on CW or SSB would present a book-keeping problem but for RTTY the chart is almost ideal. If you ever wanted a fair shot at the gold, this could be it. Copy the chart, send it to your friends and do some thinking about how its use would alter the strategy from your area. The chance to use it is coming up on May 14 (VOLTA) and again June 4 (ANARTS).

VOLTA

Sponsored by the Associazione Radioamatori Italiani (Italian version of the ARRL) on the second weekend in May.

TEST PERIOD: Saturday, May 14, 1200Z to Sunday May 15, 1200Z.

BANDS: 3.5 - 7 - 14 - 21 - 28 MHZ. **(cont. pg. 9)**

(CONTESTING cont. from pg. 8)

CATEGORIES: Single-op all band, Single-op single band, Multi-op single transmitter and SWL.

EXCHANGE: RST, QSO# and CQ-ZONE. Two-way contacts with stations outside your own country count for points in accordance with the EXCHANGE POINTS TABLE. Two-way contacts with stations outside your own continent on 3.5 and 28 MHZ count double points. Stations count for both QSO and Multiplier points once on each band.

COUNTRIES: ARRL DXCC list plus each US, Canadian and Australian call area. (W7 cannot work W7 but can work all other call areas for both QSO and Multiplier points.

MULTIPLIERS: Each country as defined above counts one multiplier. Any country worked on at least four bands counts one extra multiplier. Multipliers not found in more than four logs or from which a check log is not received may be disallowed.

SCORING: Total exchange points time total multipliers time total number of QSOs.

AWARDS: A trophy will be awarded to the top stations in each class. In addition, a certificate to all entrants.

LOGS: Use a separate page for each band. Logs must contain band, date, time (GMT), exchange received, points and multipliers worked. Comments are also appreciated. Logs should be received by July 16th to qualify.

Send them to:

Francesco Di Michele, I2DMI
P.O. BOX 55
22063 Cantu
Italy

LAST WORDS FOR BARTG

BARTG should be a real horse race this year. I expect lots of activity with some heavy competition from Europe for the pair of firsts that Roy (KT1N), Jay (KE7PN) and I will be defending from last year.

The Sunday afternoon/evening opening into Asia is their Monday so start to work on Asia early.

Nowhere does it say "SINGLE TRANSMITTER". I wrote for clarification over six months ago and have received nothing back so I guess that anything which improves frequency agility is okay.

If the scoring looks kind of complicated, try just adding 200 points per continent (up to 6 max) to your QSO points and then multiply by your country totals. That's not how the rules say to do it but the score comes out the same.

This is the first time in years that 10 meters will be wide open in the USA as well as the north/south path. The CW I hear shows that Europe is easy on 40 and can be had on 80 from western USA. Asia should open to the east coast on 40 if somebody will generate a little activity.

Don't sell 80 meters short. An hour spent on Saturday night could be worth an easy 6000 points.

Good luck! See you on the band!

de Hal, WA7EGA

(DX NEWS cont from pg. 7)

CONGO TN8, GUINEA BISSAU J53, and BENIN TY8; all sometime in the late April to June time frame!!!

And finally BOUVET 3Y0FP by SM7DSE sometime in March?? Last I heard on this one it was close to being canceled.

Well that should keep some of us busy. Be sure to express your opinions about the DXCC rules. Drop me a note to let me know what you are working. Please make sure to write DX INFO on the outside of the envelope. All cards have been answered for HD8CQ, I QSLed via the Bureaus 100% all RTTY Contest QSO's. Many thanks to Jerry N1DGC for his help on that project. I can still of course give you a direct reply if you wish. The logs for the Contest are done and we should have the results in the May Issues of the Journal and CQ magazine. Boy what a dog fight for the top 5 spots in the Single OP all Band category. I plan to be at Dayton in April along with Hal WA7EGA, Dale W6IWO, John TG9VT, Joe W3HNK, Ted HC5K and George KB2VO. Hope to see many of you there.

Thanks and a tip of the DX Hat to , WA4WIP, TG9VT, JA1ACB, K6WZ, KB2VO, VK2SG, KP4BJD, WA3ZKZ, VE7VP, HC5K, THE DX BULLETIN. 73 **de ROY,KT1N**

COMPLETE RESULTS SARTG RTTY CONTEST 1987

CLASS A SINGLE OPERATORS MULTIPLIERS

NR.	CALL	QSO	POINTS	3.5	7.0	14	21	28	TOTAL SCORE
1.	OH1EL	452	5175	11	21	54	33	22	729,675
2.	TR8DX	346	5150	9	13	46	46	6	618,000
3.	SM4CMG	316	3580	18	22	54	25	16	483,300
4.	HB9BNP	303	3385	14	22	47	19	10	379,120
5.	SM5FUG	267	2880	16	18	40	27	15	334,080
6.	G4SKA	274	3045	16	16	43	26	7	328,860
7.	EA3OL	326	3950		6	56			244,900
8.	Y43BER	217	2325	12	15	38	24	8	225,525
9.	PA3DBS	200	2250	10	7	33	31	12	209,250
10.	KB2VO/4	223	2640	1	5	53	16		198,000
11.	Y79XN	184	1950	15	9	34	25	8	177,450
12.	SP2UUU/1	187	1900	12	15	28	24	8	165,300
13.	LA7AJ	170	1870	6	11	46	21	3	162,690
14.	AB0Y/4	157	1900	4	14	48	13		150,100
15.	4X6RA	175	2575			38	18		144,200
16.	OK2BRP	205	2180			44	12	9	141,700
17.	W2FG	165	2105			56	11		141,035
18.	WB5HBR	168	1920	1	14	40	18		140,160
19.	AA5AU	179	2015		6	41	20	1	137,020
20.	OZ4FF	151	1600	13	7	34	19	5	124,800
21.	IN3XUG	174	1775		16	34	15	5	124,250
22.	SP9BCH	186	1955	11	4	34	14		117,300
23.	OZ4DZ	135	1380	14	11	23	17	11	104,880
24.	HA6NL	130	1280	10	11	26	11	11	88,320
25.	I8RFD	123	1295		9	38	6	15	88,060
26.	CT4NH	120	1380		8	29	18	8	86,940
27.	OH2LU	123	1365			30	18	13	83,265
28.	K6WZ/0	135	1455	4	8	34	11		82,935
29.	HA6PX	125	1215	10	7	29	12	9	81,405
30.	IV3UT	116	1195	3	9	27	16	13	81,260
31.	G4MKO	123	1285	11	4	17	22	4	74,530
32.	SM6FZD	134	1420			36	16		73,840
33.	N6GG	121	1405	1	4	39	8		73,060
34.	N9AW	108	1275		6	47			67,575
35.	YO5BLA	104	1095	6	1	20	20	10	62,415
36.	W3AOH	88	1055			47	11		61,190
37.	Y22HF	102	1045	4		24	20	8	58,520
38.	IV3ZDO	91	900	6	11	24	12	11	57,600
39.	OK2FD	90	965	11	6	21	15	6	56,935
40.	W7MI	104	935		11	39	3		49,555
41.	W2JGR	105	1055			44			46,420
42.	JA1BYL	90	1130	1		33			38,420

CLASS A SINGLE OPERATORS (CONT.) MULTIPLIERS

NR.	CALL	QSO	POINTS	3.5	7.0	14	21	28	TOTAL SCORE
43.	I4IBR	73	770		8	22	14		33,880
44.	W0LHS	88	975			33			32,175
45.	W2KHQ	60	825		4	25	9		31,350
46.	KD4OM	53	695			29	15		30,580
47.	SM4AIO	79	795	8	7	19	13		29,415
48.	VE7YB	63	795			35			27,825
49.	SP3HWN	42	640		10	13	19		26,880
50.	Y27AO/A	69	710	6	24	7			26,270
51.	F6BVB	61	620			19	13	8	24,800
52.	SM7ABL	57	580	17	2	21	16	1	22,040
53.	SM7BGE	68	660	9	2	17	5		21,780
54.	SM3MID	57	565	2	4	12	14	6	21,470
55.	ZL2AKI	47	660		3	26	1		20,100
56.	WA8FLF	47	565	4	3	25	3		19,775
57.	VK2BQS	55	790			25	1		19,750
58.	SP1AAQ	56	585			14	15		19,965
59.	KA1LMR	41	505		7	21	3		15,655
60.	DF8WS	50	505			14	9	8	15,655
61.	PU7RGW	40	585			26			15,210
62.	K4JYS	33	495		1	24	3		13,860
63.	YO2IS	49	525			11	15		13,650
64.	W8LNK	47	530		8	17			13,250
65.	KL7PG	46	550	1	4	19			13,200
66.	W6CN	46	435		29				12,615
67.	JA1DFQ	41	545			20	2	1	12,535
68.	OZ7XE	52	520			16		8	12,480
69.	K8CV	40	425			27			11,475
70.	LA9RY	50	490	8		9	5		10,780
71.	K0BJ	35	400			22			8,800
72.	K2PEQ/4	26	365			24			8,760
73.	EA5FHE	43	450				19		8,550
74.	DL1EK	38	395			21			8,295
75.	WA6AHF	29	330			25			8,250
76.	3G2Z	39	575			14			8,050
77.	YO6CFB	32	345		6	16			7,590
78.	I0KHP	31	305			17	7		7,320
79.	VE2ARU	25	315		5	12	6		7,245
80.	YU3MJ	32	320			20			6,400
81.	G4JLU	32	330			18			5,940
82.	EA1AW	24	285			13	6		5,415
83.	KA9NSD	30	320			14	4		5,120
84.	N0FMR	31	320			15			4,800

SARTG 1987 RESULTS CONTINUED

CLASS A SINGLE OPERATORS (CONT.)

NR.	CALL	QSO	POINTS	3.5	7.0	14	21	28	TOTAL SCORE
85.	VE6ZX	26	300			14			4,200
86.	HB9NL	20	205			6	9	5	3,690
87.	JA1DI	16	240			15			3,600
88.	EA8AKQ	14	205			7	7		2,870
89.	JA2NNF	17	245			17			2,450
90.	Y32ZF	21	210				10		2,100
91.	CT1BKK	16	160	1	1	9			1,760
92.	HB9DCW	16	130		1	3	6	3	1,690
93.	SP9GNP	16	155			9			1,395
94.	YO2DNO	14	135	10					1,350
95.	Y31IB	16	160			8			1,280
96.	OZ9ZQ	14	140			8			1,120
97.	VE7BDQ	10	120			8			960
98.	SP2FF	9	80	2	2	2	2	2	720
99.	Y31ZB/Y38NF	11	110		1	5			660
100.	KD0CA	10	80		1	6			560
101.	AG4T/KL	10	100			5			500
102.	WA6OGO	5	60			3			160

CLASS B MULTI OPERATORS

				MULTIPLIERS					
NR.	CALL	QSO	POINTS	3.5	7.0	14	21	28	TOTAL SCORE
1.	LZ1KSP	325	3550	16	13	47	30	18	440,200
2.	YU7KMN	250	2720		6	48	19	15	239,360
3.	WA7EGA	266	2905	7	16	49	7	1	232,400
4.	UZ9CWA	203	2955	10	7	40	17		218,670
5.	OH2AY	216	2350	9	11	35	15	14	197,400
6.	OK1KQL	184	2000	13	14	36	22	8	186,000
7.	G0ATX	193	2150	12	6	35	19	9	174,150
8.	DL0EJ	224	2630	9		53			163,060
9.	YU4EZC	141	1520		10	31	24		98,800
10.	OZ7SAC	117	1315	3		35	15	4	74,955
11.	Y51ZF	109	1055	15	10	27	8		63,300
12.	OK3KSK	41	410	7		18			10,250

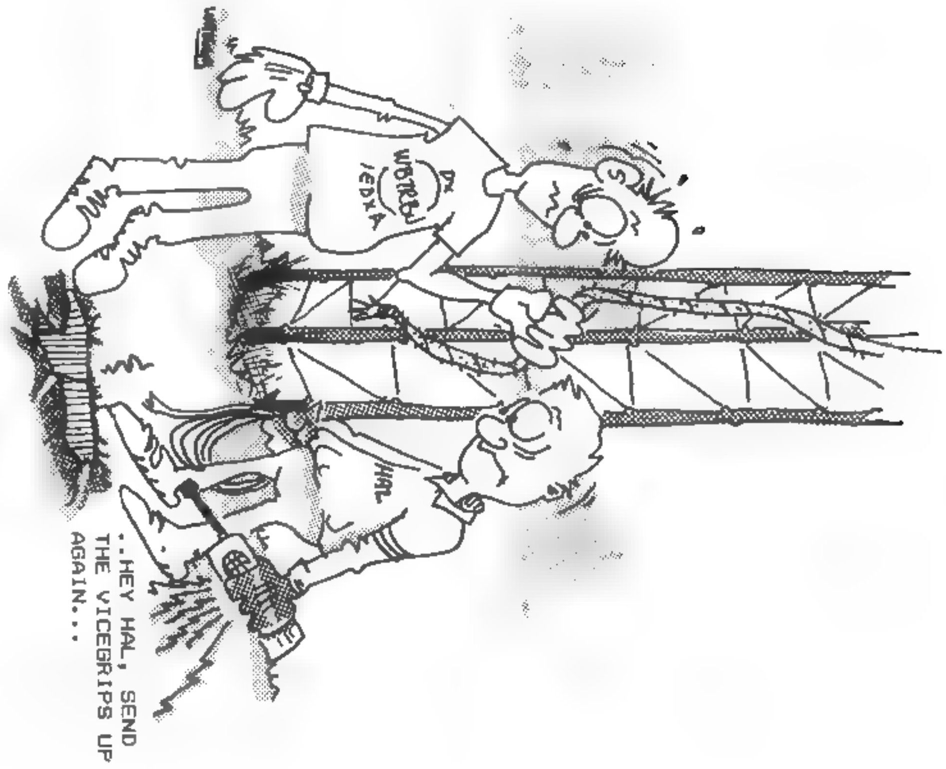
CLASS C SWL OPERATORS

				MULTIPLIERS					
NR.	CALL	QSO	POINTS	3.5	7.0	14	21	28	TOTAL SCORE
1.	ONL383	249	2720	14	16	42	33	17	341,840
2.	F11ARR	217	2465	6		48	30	15	244,035
3.	Y51-01-M	155	1635	13	2	32	26		119,355
4.	F11ADB	127	1350	6	13	32	19	9	106,650
5.	Y33-09-O	137	1400	5	11	27	23	5	99,400
6.	DE1HFE	119	1180	10	5	23	17	8	74,340

CLASS C SWL OPERATORS

NR.	CALL	QSO	POINTS	3.5	7.0	14	21	28	TOTAL SCORE
7.	ONL2652	76	810			26	16	12	43,740
8.	G8CDW	16	190				14		2,660
9.	JL3AMK	19	170		1	9			1,700
10.	Y32-08-F	14	150			10			1,500

CHECK LOGS: CT1AUR-EA1DCQ-EA2XX-G2BUY-SM6EZI-SP2UU/1-SP3XX-SP7FWJ


DX
WB7RBU
IEDXA
HAL
..HEY HAL, SEND THE VICEGRIPS UP AGAIN...

Richard E. Polivka
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18943 Vickie Ave. #34
Cerritos, CA. 90701

PACKET

This month, I am going to devote this column to only one subject, the Bulletinboard System or just BBS. So, here we go.

THE MSO

For those who may or may not be familiar with RTTY, there are systems where Amateurs have dedicated computer systems to be storage points for messages.. These have been referred to as "Mailboxes" or just MSO's. If you want to learn more about the operation of MSO's on RTTY, read Dick Uhrmacher's MSO column. In the Packet community, we have the same type of system in operation but the systems are more powerful than the RTTY MSO. They are the Packet Bulletinboard System or just referred to as BBS.

THE BBS - AN OVERVIEW

The BBS that is used on the Packet channels is also computer based and controlled. By the nature of the Packet system, the BBS's are programed to do more. The biggest asset of the BBS system is their programed intelligence. As an example, I can put a message in the BBS system that I use here in Los Angeles and send a message to Dick, K0VKH, in South Dakota. The BBS system would automatically route the traffic on the appropriate circuits. Another benefit of the BBS is the vast amount of online storage space that is available on the computer systems. With the advent of cheap disk storage, it is very easy to have 40 MB or more on a BBS system. There are several computer programs that are available on the public domain market plus there are many that have been written by BBS owners to do the same. So it's not hard to get one running.

STARTING UP

The easiest way to get started using the BBS in your area is just "log on". You connect up to the BBS just as if you were connecting up to another user. When you connect to the system, the system will go looking for your call to see if you are a current user. If not, the BBS system may ask you for some information for its database. Just follow the statements as presented and the BBS will walk you through the start up procedure. Just about all BBS systems have in their files a help file on all of the commands that the BBS supports. It is advisable to print out that file or store it to disk for your own reference. You will find that the file will be several pages long but it is the best way to convey the versatility of the system. What we plan to do over the next few months, is cover the commands that are used on the BBS. So let's cover some of the commands staring now.

BYE

This seems like a crazy way to start coverage of the BBS command structure but this is an important one. When you want to "log off" of the system, it is best for the BBS to do the disconnect procedure. There are some systems that need to perform a shutdown and reinitializing procedure to insure file integrity. So, when you are finished with the system, just type "BYE" or in some cases, just "B" and the system will log you "off" and do the disconnect. Of course, the big job of the BBS is to hold and forward mail to other users of the system. In order for you to get the messages into the system, you use the "SEND" command. There are several options and formats that are used for the various forwarding styles. In order to send mail from you to someone else, you can use the simple form of the command. Let's say that I wanted to send a piece of mail to W6IWO. I would connect up to the system and proceed through the logging in sequence. When I get to the command line, I would type "S" and then return. The BBS will ask me to whom I want to send the mail to and I would give the call letters of the person who is to receive the mail. In this case it would be W6IWO. I send that to the BBS and it will then ask me for the subject. I send the subject and then it tells me to start sending the message. At the end of the message, you will have to put either "/EX" or a Control-Z. On some systems it may be different but the system will tell you what it is looking for. It will then store the message on disk until the receiving station logs onto the system. Then it will tell him that there is mail waiting for him to read.

Another subcommand on the "SEND" function is mail forwarding. This is probably one of the most used functions in the BBS. This is what makes the use of the system so versatile. There are systems in place that allow for forwarding of mail from one BBS to another BBS across the country or even around the world. That is why Packet has become so popular. The forwarding systems allow for handling the traffic without the two parties concerned participating at the same time. **(cont. pg. 13)**

(PACKET cont. from pg. 12)
There are other subcommands that are interesting and a big help. One is a forwarding command that leaves a copy of the message at each BBS in the chain. This can be a great benefit for putting out general broadcasts such as bulletins, want ads, and the like. An example of the use of this command would be if you wanted to put out a request for help on a particular piece of equipment and you want the widest possible coverage.

The last option that I will discuss is the PRIVATE command. I believe that in itself, it is self explanatory but I shall touch on it briefly. The command allows you to send a message to someone else that can't be read by the general public except by the person to whom the message is addressed. It is good for sending traffic that you don't want to be common knowledge.

I have not included any command structures here. What I plan to do is go over the whole command structure and then have a chart at the end which explains all the commands for the two BBS systems that have been written by W0RLI and WA7MBL. There are some differences between the two systems so the chart will help bring out the differences. The on-line help files that are on the systems will help you understand the commands so that you can use them. More on this next month.

EVERY FOUR YEARS

Every four years the youth of the world meet to participate in sport. Of course I am talking about the Olympics. The Winter Games of the 15th Olympiad were just held in Calgary, Alberta, Canada. I can remember coming home after work around midnight and watching the broadcast off the videotape. It is amazing how the games have touched me personally. Watching people like Eddy Edwards of Great Britain set a British record in the ski jump. He may have finished dead last in the competition but he finished in first place in his mind because he participated. There was Dan Jansen from the USA who has the reputation of not falling in his races on the speed skating oval. He fell in both of his races. He was under great pressure because of the death of his sister. He could have left but he participated in the Games anyway.

Then there were the closing ceremonies. The athletes are supposed to file into the stadium in an orderly fashion but it never seems to work. They just file in usually as a mob with some holding hands, people riding piggyback, etc. Who cares about countries, medals won, and the teams,etc. The spirit of one world lives there, not the individual countries. I wish that I could explain how I felt watching that mass of humanity together. I wish that they all were Hams because then they could all stay in touch with each other over the years. We as Hams have that ability to talk with anyone in the world. Political boundaries and country borders can't stop the transmissions that we produce. What I am getting at is that we have the same chances to talk as they do and cultivate friendships. I still get a kick out of talking to someone across the city even though I can talk across the country or around the world. Let's keep spreading the word that we can talk to the world and enjoy it. I always try to answer any questions that people may ask me about radio equipment. I wish I had the time to go and help set up a display at some of the local parks when there are carnivals or city celebrations. Let's keep spreading the word about Amateur Radio to the world and who knows, maybe we can keep spreading the hope of the Olympics to the whole world as well..

How about that ? One World .. What a Concept.. Via Amateur Radio. **de Richard, N6NKO**

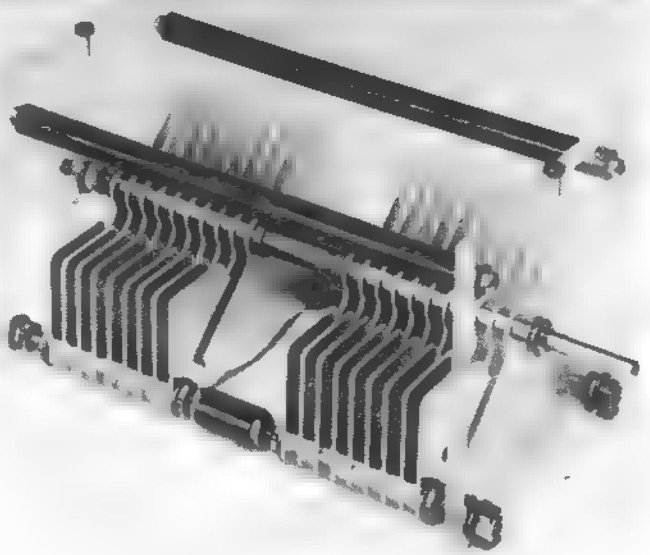


Figure 1. (see Connections column)

Correct caption for picture on page 9 of last months issue should read - "Come on guys, hold the ladder, Ted, HC5K, is up there!"

Dick Uhrmacher
K0VKH
212 48th ST
Cedar Rapids, SD.
57702

MSO'S

Hi Gang! Is it possible the Dayton Hamvention is just around the corner again? Boy, how time flys when you're having fun! This months MSO Column will be abbreviated, as I'm off to Florida to run a little hot sand between my toes.

This months "MSO of the Month" is the station of Ernie Johnson, W6ZRR, located in beautiful San Luis Obispo, California. This author had the distinct pleasure of visiting Ernie's Shack in early December 1987, and not only spending three days with this wonderful gentleman, but also being treated to some of the best fresh seafood in the United States. Seafood may not be all that great to some of you folks where it is plentiful, but for a country boy from South Dakota, it rivals opening up a new Kenwood box on Christmas morning!

Ernie is a Old Timer in Amateur Radio, being first licensed back in the days when "radio" was considered a phenomenon more than anything, and the only way to participate in this mysterious field was to "build your own". He's progressed over the years to the point where he now maintains one of the most modern Amateur Radio stations around, and has been a SYSOP on the National Autostart Frequency since its inception ten years ago. Ernie's MSO can be depended upon to put out a booming signal from the West Coast, and is good copy over most of the United States.

His present equipment leaves nothing to be desired for the avid RTTY enthusiast, and includes a HAL DS-3200 Radio Data Communications Terminal, HAL ST-8000 HF Modem, Kenwood TS-940S Transceiver, Epson LQ-800 Printer, and Hy-Gain TH6DXX Beam Antenna. He utilizes the very popular W9CD "MSO program" software in his DS-3200, for mailbox activities. Ernie is a ARRL Bulletin Manager for his area, and keeps his local area current on all of the ARRL advisory bulletins. He also has a HAL MPT-3100 ASR, ST-6000 Demodulator, and DSK-3100 Disk Drive System, which he maintains on VHF in the San Luis Obispo area.

Drop in on the National Autostart Frequency, (14.085.625 Hz Mark, 74 baud), give Ernie's system a shot, and meet one of Amateur Radio's finest gentlemen! His access code is MSOZRR. Keep up the fine work Ernie!

AMTOR LISTENING TIP

NE7L, from Everett, Washington, reports that the Marine Radio Station "WLO" transmits SITOR and AMTOR on 6.500 Mhz, 24 hours per day. Some of the information broadcast is AP and UPI news, which is a good way for AMTOR users to keep current on world events, without having to watch the "tube"! Thanks to NE7L.

MALICIOUS AND INTENTIONAL INTERFERENCE

It is unfortunate that one must speak about a subject so revolting as malicious and intentional interference to Amateur Radio communications, but it is a fact of life, and needs to be addressed from time to time. As with any large group of individuals, there are those among us that seem to enjoy intentionally interfering with RTTY transmissions, whether they be the run-of-the-mill QSO, RTTY Pix, mailbox activities, or W1AW transmissions. And, even though these individuals seem to satisfy some inner need to frustrate their fellow Amateurs, it would seem to this author that no rational person would participate in this type of activity.

What concerns me most, is the appearance it gives others in lands outside our borders. Is it any wonder that the "Ugly American" syndrome has come about, when one can observe these irrational individuals merrily going about disrupting communications?

Just recently I've been asked on several occasions about what can be done to curtail malicious or intentional interference when it is observed, and I assure you that there are no "instant cures". But, I do have a few things that have proved successful in the past, some of which are based on personal experience, and some of which are just good sense.

First of all, never let your temper get the best of you by "responding in kind", referring to the interfering stations ancestry, (or lack thereof)! Generally it is best to not engage in any conversation with them. By their very actions they are attempting to "get your goat", and if they can get you to respond, it feeds their sick ego.

(cont. pg. 15)

(MSO's cont. from pg. 14)

Ignore them, and all of the fun goes out of it for them!

If there is a continuing pattern to the interference, keep accurate records of the time, frequency, mode, unusual signal characteristics, and any other items which may help the Federal Communications identify them. Enlist others in "tri-angulating" on the offending signal with directional antennas, in an attempt to determine the general direction the signals are coming from. Use your printer to keep actual on-the-air data for reference, and forwarding to the FCC.

With a little sharp observation, it's amazing how easy it is to pick out a RTTY station by its signal characteristics, such as how long the transmitter carrier is on before it starts to send valid RTTY data, how long the carrier stays on after valid RTTY data stops, whether the shift is more or less than 170 Hertz, and other very easily identifiable components such as sentence structure and verbiage. These are all items that the FCC needs to help them identify those who intentionally cause interference.

My experience is that the FCC Monitoring Stations are sympathetic in cases of intentional/malicious interference, so do not hesitate to enlist their aid. The FCC Monitoring Stations in Grand Island, Nebraska, and Powder Springs, Georgia, and the FCC Regional Office in Boston, Massachusetts, have promptly responded when notified of this type activity. Ask for the Watch Officer, and be prepared to properly brief him on all aspects of the interference.

Follow up any telephone activity with the FCC with a Formal Compliant, in writing. Be sure to list all of the information necessary for the FCC to be able to properly evaluate each instance. They will assign a "case number" to your complaint, to which you can refer if the interference continues. Remember, the FCC is just as anxious to rid the airwaves of this type of individual as you are, but they must have concrete evidence that an offense has taken place. They must observe the actual offense while it takes place, and this requires your prompt action, as well as factual, accurate data. Once you file a complaint with them, don't think your job is done. Follow up with the Monitoring Station from time to time to check on the status of your complaint. A bit of perseverance will pay handsome returns, by ridding our bands of those who intentionally cause interference.

"RTTY DINNER", DURING 1988 DAYTON HAMVENTION

Don't forget to register for the annual "RTTY Dinner", which will again be held during the Dayton HAMVENTION. "Attitude Adjustment" starts at 1900 hours, on Saturday, April 30, in the "Radisson Inn Dayton", (Needmore Road and I-75). This years host is "The International Mailbox Frequency", with Jerry, WA1IUF leading the pack. Reservations can be arranged for via the WA1IUF, K0VKH and K4KOZ MSO's. You must forward $15.00 to Jerry Trichter, WA1IUF, 136 Alden Ave., New Haven, CT, 06515, for each person desiring to eat at the dinner. This new reservation procedure is based on the Radisson's requirement to contract in advance, and pay for all meals, regardless if the person(s) attends or not. Several of our DX friends will attend this year, and we're looking forward to seeing YOU there!

That's it for this month Gang. Looking forward to seeing many of you in Dayton next month. Be there! Best 73 . **de Dick, K0VKH**

(HITS & MISSES cont. from pg. 2)

AEA (Advanced Electronics Applications) is now accepting nominations for their "Amateur Ambassador Award". This award will be presented to the Amateur who demonstrates extraordinary action in presenting amateur service to those outside Amateur Radio. The award carries a $1000.00 cash prize plus round trip air fare, hotel, and meals to the ARRL National Convention in Portland Ore. in September 1988.

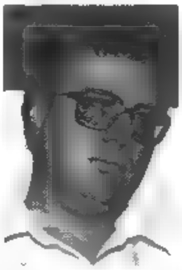
If you know of someone who qualifies for this award, send the name to AEA, Amateur Ambassador Award, P.O. BOX C-2160, Lynnwood, Wa. 8036. Previous winners have included Mary Duffield, WA6KFA of California and Byron Lindsey, W4BIW of Georgia.

Don't forget!!! If you are going to attend the RTTY dinner at Dayton this year, it is a must that you contact Jerry Trichter, WA1IUF and make a deposit. All information was in last months issue but in case you are a new subscriber, simply contact Jerry direct, his address is good in the callbook or leave a message in his MSO on 14.097.5 the International Autostart frequency.

Again this month I'm out of space, don't want to leave out some nice pictures I received for this issue. So until next month 73's.

de Dale, W6IWO

RTTY JOURNAL AWARDS PROGRAM



Jay Townsend, KE7PN
P.O. BOX 644
Spokane, Wa. 99210

AWARDS

The following awards are sponsored by the RTTY Journal. DXCC, W.A.C., W.A.S., W.A.Z., and for 1988 a special W.A.S. award. All claims should be sent to:

Jay W. Townsend, KE7PN
P.O. Box 644
Spokane, WA 99210-0644
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

The fee for all awards for the year 1988 is $5.00 U.S. Any subscriber to the RTTY Journal will have the fee(s) waived.

DXCC

This award is available to licensed amateurs and Short Wave Listeners on a "heard" basis. You must submit satisfactory proof of having worked/heard a minimum of 100 different countries using RTTY as the mode of communication. There are also available endorsements for Amtor, Packet and other digital modes as well as single band or all band. The ARRL DX Countries list is used as the criterion for the determination of the status of a country. The award is now a certificate and also endorsements are available in segments of 25 from 100 to 200 and from 200 up by 10 country increments. Send only a S.A.S.E. for the stickers.

W.A.Z

The W.A.Z. award is available on the same basis as the DXCC for having worked/heard at least one amateur RTTY station located in each of the CQ magazine 40 zones. This award can also be endorsed for other digital modes as appropriate on single as well as all band.

W.A.S.

Worked all states is available to all licensed amateurs and listeners on a "heard" basis on the submission of proof of having worked/heard a RTTY amateur station in each of the 50 states of the United States of America. The award is endorsable single or all band and is endorsable on any digital mode.

In addition for **1988 only** *there is a special W.A.S. award for working or hearing (SWL) all 50 states during the period January 1, 1988 to January 31, 1989. No QSL cards for the 1988 WAS are necessary, just a list of Date, Time, Station and Band with the list and fee submitted directly to the contest manager.*

W.A.C.

Worked all continents is available for having worked/heard at least one RTTY amateur station in each of the 6 continents of the world; Africa, Asia, Europe, North America, Oceania, and South America. This award can be mixed band, endorsed single band or other digital mode as the evidence supports.

The following methods of verification are presently accepted: B.A.R.T.G. Awards Manager; S.A.R.T.G. awards Manager; J.A.R.L. national verification; CQ Magazine Awards Manager; A.R.R.L. Awards Manager; and RTTY Journal Awards Manager. Under no circumstance will photo copies of cards or other awards be accepted by this Manager. Contest verifiable awards programs remain in force for the BARTG and CQ/RTTY Journal Fall contests as has been done in the past.

de Jay, KE7PN

RTTY DINNER AT DAYTON

QUESTION - ARE YOU GOING TO ATTEND THIS ANNUAL AFFAIR?

IF YOUR ANSWER IS YES, PLEASE READ ON .... Contact Jerry Trichter, WA1IUF as soon as possible and give him a deposit for your dinner. The Radisson Inn has changed its policy regarding dinners and now we must pay for the dinners we order. In years past it was only necessary to tell us if you would attend and then if something came up and you could not attend it was no big deal but that has now changed and the money must be paid up front. If you should cancel at the last minute, you will not be refunded your money. Once the count has been given to the Radisson, we must hold to it. This is a great chance to have a eyeball with the RTTY gang without having to shout over the hustle and bustle of the Hamvention crowds. Jerry also has a nice program planned for us, one I'm sure you will enjoy. So plan on being with us at this gala affair; send your money to Jerry today. His address is 136 Alden Ave., New Haven, Ct. 06515.

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ED: In response to the Paul Blankmann, AH6D article which appeared in the January issue of the RTTY Journal, Larry Warren has more to add. Here is his story.

From: Larry Warren, KA7TPV
Chief Army MARS
Suite 102 Wick Bldg.
Sierra Vista, AZ. 85635

I read the article "Can We Compare AMTOR with HF Packet" by Paul Blankmann with great interest. I was a bit disappointed that I did not see "MARS" mentioned in the article, and it prompted me to write this letter to tell the rest of the story.

During the period 1981 thru 1983 I was Command MARS Director for the Pacific Basin, stationed in Hawaii. Army MARS was a low-key operation, rocking along with fond memories of its great accomplishments during the Vietnam era. Equipment at the MARS Gateway stations was obsolete, and that in the hands of affiliates not much better. Army MARS was not into high-tech operations on an official scale.

In early 1983 Paul Blankmann approached me with a suggestion that we support the Biannual Trans Pacific Yacht Race between Los Angeles and Hawaii. This would require newspaper perfect communications between a ship at sea, LA and Honolulu on a daily basis; of all things he proposed we use AMTOR. Through coordination between Paul, Ken Moore, W6WIS, Larry Somers, KB6FW, myself, the Western Area MARS Director and the military frequency coordinator in Washington DC we were off and running. The communications provided were highly successful and consisted of a combination of MARS and Amateur operation using AMTOR. Paul did not know it but he had just kicked Army MARS into the twentieth century.

We have since provided communications to the 1985 and 1987 Trans Pacific Yacht Race using AMTOR with great success but the biggest outgrowth of that 1983 experiment has been the impact on the overall MARS program. I was moved into the position of Chief Army MARS and have used that position to promote a progressive organization. Army MARS was committed in early 1985 to testing long haul HF Packet operations. The first systems fielded, consisted of a Kenwood TS940S radio, TL922 amp, Commodore 128 computer and a PKJ64 TNC. Tests were run between Germany, Ft. Meade, Md, Ft. Sam Houston, Tx, Persidio of San Francisco, Ca, Hawaii, and Korea. In April 1987 the Army MARS gateway system went to traffic on Packet. Of course our systems also have capability of operating AMTOR, Packet, RTTY, ASCII and CW so that we can use the mode most appropriate to the required path. The MARS gateway stations are currently being totally upgraded with state-of-the-art equipment and should be fully operational in all modes by late Fall. While we are busy upgrading our Military MARS stations, the affiliate members are staying one step ahead. They are learning and teaching the young military MARS operators as we go along.

So, when I look at where we are today I have to thank Paul, Larry, Ken and the Trans Pac Yacht Race for pushing us into high-tech operations. It is now my job to be sure we don't fall behind. Now you know the rest of the Paul Blankmann story. **de Larry, KA7TPV**

**L. to R. Cole, W6OXP - Dean, WA6PJR
Doc, W7MI - Al, W6MI**

L. to R. Gin, JA1ACB - Irv, W6GC - Ed, K6EV - Ken, W6WIS

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NEWS - NEWS - NEWS Amateur Radio's Newspaper "WORLDRADIO". One year subscription is $11.00. Contact: WORLDRADIO P.O. BOX 189490, Sacramento, Ca. 95818

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